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LOOK INSIDE



Father Gerry arrives in parish

Our Lady of Fatima and St. Patrick's have a new priest after Bill Fellion retires.

See page 3



Firefighths

Stanhope wins bragging rights in annual games of skill and fun.

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In Quotes

"This was a hard-fought battle from the beginning. In the end we just weren't successful."

Liberal candidate Jason Ward, page 18

Scott rises above Liberal wave

by ERIN TENNANT
Times staff

In the end it was perhaps a liking for things as they are.

For in spite of the polished eloquence of Liberal candidate Jason Ward — who many tipped to ride the wave of the anticipated Liberal election landslide

across Ontario — or the bulldozing bluster of Democrat Earl Manners, it was the far more mild-mannered Conservative Laurie Scott, the down-to-earth nurse from Kinmount, who grabbed the 47.4 percent majority with 24,200 votes last Thursday to become the new Haliburton-Victoria-Brock MPP at

Queen's Park.

In the aftermath of the win, however, Scott will be well aware that despite her happy victory, which owed no small part to retiring member Chris Hodgson's widespread popularity, the Tories lost 15 per cent of votes compared to the 1999 election — something in which both

the Liberals and Democrats will find solace, with both parties making notable electoral gains at the polls.

But amid the mock ancient Greece pastels illuminating the Olympia Restaurant in Lindsay last Thursday night, it was all smiles and hugs as Scott's

see ATMOSPHERE page 18



At the PC celebration at the Olympia Restaurant in Lindsay on Thursday night, the riding's new MPP Laurie Scott is congratulated by her predecessor Chris Hodgson as Premier Ernie Eves learns of his government's defeat by the Liberals, who will form a majority government.

Rail Trail to allow ATVs: consultant

by ERIN TENNANT
Times staff

All-terrain vehicle access along the rail corridor will be officially included in a final recommendation to the trail's steering committee later this month.

Speaking at the Rail Trail

Master Plan public meeting at the Fish Hatchery on Tuesday night, Ken Buck from Stantec, the consulting firm commissioned to undertake a study of the Haliburton-to-Kinmount trail, announced that his firm's final submission would involve full access for ATVs and Enduro

bikes.

The decision follows some heated debate over whether motorized users should play a part in the future of the proposed signature trail.

Under Stantec's three-season recommendation, involving an estimated construction cost of

\$2.2 million over five years, ATVs and dirt bikes would be allowed on trail shoulders from 10 a.m. to dusk every day, with speed limits of 50km/h on rural stretches and 20km/h near towns and villages. Snowmobiles will retain exclusive use of the 33km

see RAIL TRAIL page 2

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Rail Trail's neighbours feel concerns unheard

from page 1

trail in the winter.

Stantec will also recommend an enforcement unit involving a partnership between the county, the OPP and the local ATV club. It would have the legal authority to regulate motorized users with permits and fines for those who ignore trail etiquette.

Buck said that while ATVs now constitute about 12 per cent of trail users along the abandoned rail bed, the four-wheel riders are likely to contribute a big part of the estimated \$5.1 million in direct expenditure within the county over the first year of the new signature trail.

Said Buck: "Snowmobilers are among the biggest spenders among trail users in Ontario - we believe the ATV fraternity will be very similar. The interesting thing is that ATVing is over three seasons, not just one."

Stantec's recommendation would involve a stonedust surface for the multi-use trail path, with signage, fencing and lockable gates to prohibit unauthorized users such as highway vehicles. Major staging areas with parking lots, kiosks and unloading spaces for ATVs and horses would be erected in Haliburton and Kinmount, with a minor staging area in Gelert. Rest areas are planned for Donald and Lochlin.

Stantec also recommends a management committee for maintaining the trail, marketing and fundraising, setting up trail insurance and annual budgets, creating new linkages and loops along the trail, and forming liaisons with

nearby trail systems.

Representatives from the Haliburton ATV Association and the Ontario Federation of Trail Riders expressed delight with Stantec's proposal to include motorized users. But not everyone was happy.

"In this whole study, I haven't heard one word about the people who own houses or cottages along the trail," said Bob Groot from Howland Junction.

"I haven't heard one word about the people who own houses or cottages along the trail"

BOB GROOT

"I bought my property for the quietude and serenity. A great deal of my enjoyment will be taken away [if motorized users are permitted on the rail bed]. So I will be appealing my property assessment if this goes ahead; I will be appealing my taxes."

Said another landowner: "All I can see from this plan is more traffic, more noise, more trespasses."

Passive trail enthusiast Pamela Marsales said many passive users are scared off the rail bed because of motorized users. "I've heard again and again from people, 'I used

to go bike riding here/I used to go walking here/I used to go horse riding here, but now I'm afraid to do it because of the ATVs.'"

The chair of the Rail Trail Steering Committee, Jim Blake, who will be submitting a finalized proposal to county council early next year, assured the nearly 100 people attending the public meeting that there was still an opportunity to oppose Stantec's recommendations.

"This isn't the end of the process," said Blake.

Stantec's report will be publicly available at county council and at the Trails and Tours Network office within two weeks.

12 Mile Lake home badly damaged by fire

Although most of the building was saved, water damage was extensive after a house fire on 12 Mile Lake on Thursday morning.

Firefighters from Stanhope and Minden Hills had to chop holes in the roof of Derrick and Lori Box's Viceroy home at the end of Red Umbrella Road in order to let the heat out and the water in, Stanhope Deputy Fire Chief Keith Thomas said.

"The fire was in the roof when we arrived," he said. At one point the departments had five ladders leading up to the roof to allow the firefighters access to house.

Lori Box made a frantic call to the Stanhope department at 10 o'clock in the morning after she noticed smoke near the roof. She was alone in the house at the time.

The Boxes own Riverview Furniture in Minden. The cause of the fire is not yet known.

It's up to the insurance company to decide if the house can be repaired or whether it must be torn down.

Late busing back at HHSS

The Trillium Lakelands District School Board is supporting co-curricular secondary school activities by funding transportation to students who wish to participate.

Late busses transporting students to points close to home are arranged by each secondary school in the district. Athletics, arts, and after-school programs are made possible for secondary school students through this initiative.

Daily schedules, routes, and departure times have been established to meet the needs of each school. To find out details for Haliburton Highlands Secondary School, please contact Principal Gary Brohman at 457-2950.



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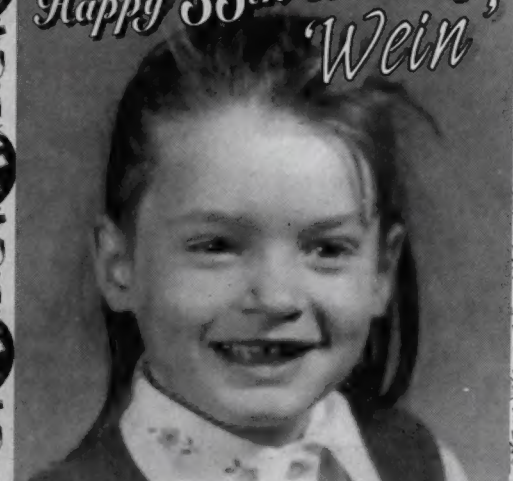
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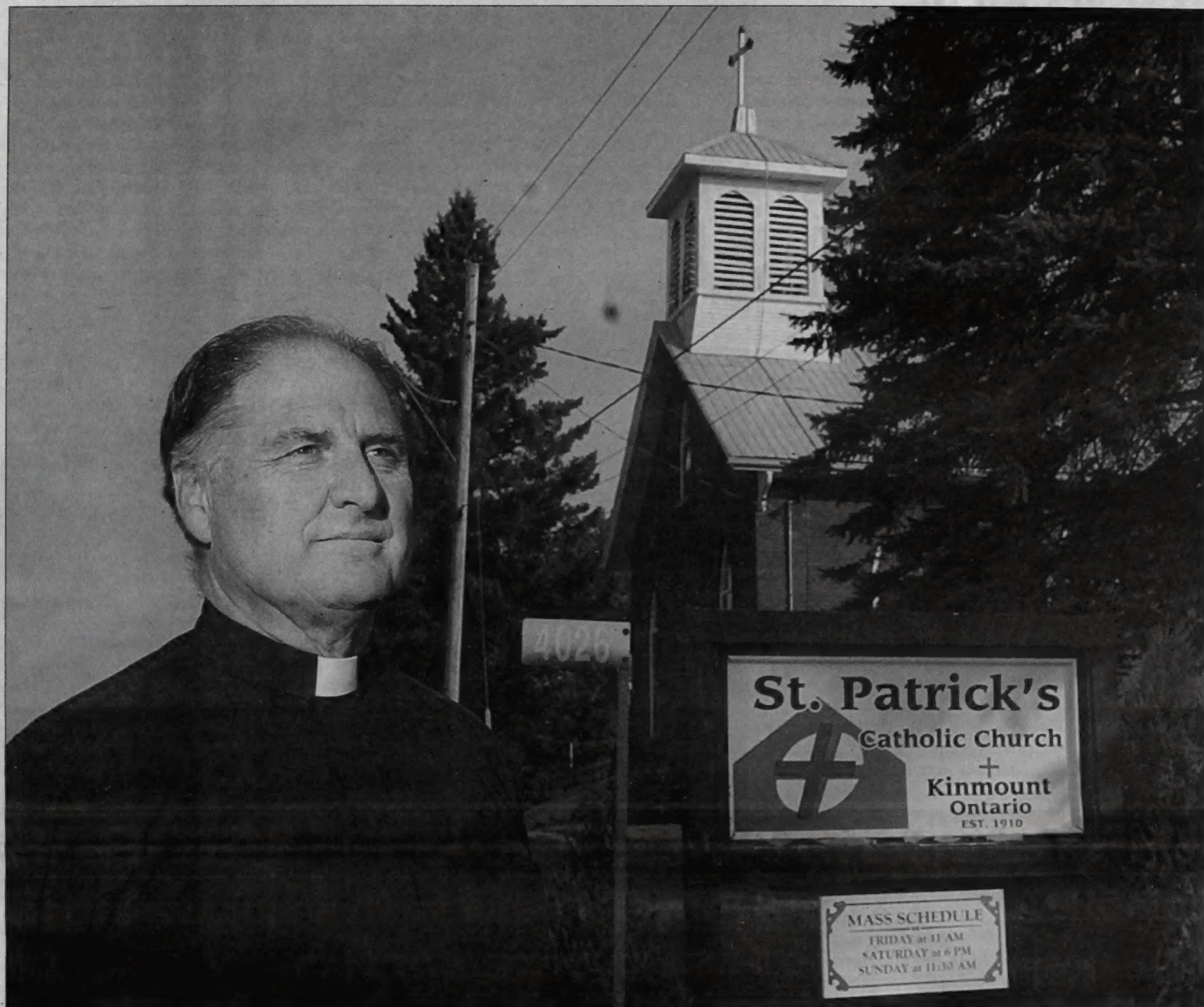


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"I love people," says Father Gerry Campeau who has taken over the Kinmount/Minden Catholic parish. He became a priest after the death of his wife from cancer. "One day I came home from work and it just hit me. It was almost like someone was talking to me."

Father Gerry Campeau leads Minden parish

by **JERRY GROZELLE**
Times staff

Gerry Campeau's life has taken a dramatic change. He went from a successful businessman with a wife and children just a few years ago to a Catholic priest who is now ministering to the needs of parishioners in Kinmount and Minden.

"I never thought I'd be doing this," he said, looking back to his life before he received his calling.

Since the Catholic Church doesn't allow priests to be married, Father Gerry is one of very few who have become priests after being married and raising a family. He believes it gives him a different perspective from most priests.

Father Gerry was originally from the Windsor area where he operated his businesses and raised his family. He owned and operated a flower shop for 15 years and after that women's clothing shops specializing in oversized fashions. In addition, his business experience includes three nursing homes/retirement residences in Windsor. He was married, has two children and now, seven grandchildren.

Campeau and his wife were devout Catholics during the time they were raising their two children, but he says their individual views of religion eventually took different paths.

After their daughter and son moved from the family home to raise their own

families, his wife developed cancer and died. Father Gerry says he doesn't think the death of his wife was a factor in his decision to give everything up and become a priest.

After her death, he focused on his work, expanding the women's clothing business. He said the urge to become a priest may sound a bit melodramatic. "One day I came home from work and it just hit me," he said. "It was almost like somebody was talking to me."

The Holy Spirit truly does work in mysterious ways.

"I only had Grade 12, so I had to get a master's degree in theology," he said. "I thought there was no way, but I did it."

He attended the Theological Seminary in Weston Massachusetts, where he earned his degree in four years. The seminary is one of a few that accepts "second career" applicants over 35 years of age.

The Kinmount-Minden is his fourth since being ordained. He started as an assistant Pastor in Parry Sound, then spent almost a year in Havelock/Norwood and a year and a half in Courtice as the pastor at the St. Anthony of Padua Parish.

"I went there to build a church," he said, but those plans were put on hold.

Father Gerry considers coming to the Kinmount-Minden parish a positive experience, even though he is accustomed to life in a city. "I believe there is a reason I came here," he said. "Maybe it's to meet a

lot of nice people and maybe there is a lot of work to do."

Although there is no guarantee regarding the length of his stay in this parish, Bishop Nicola DeAngelis has indicated the posting will be for six years.

"It's exciting to be here, but you can be moved at any time," he said.

It's not only Father Gerry who will have to make adjustments. The parishioners will have to adjust to the new priest. He will be the first to admit that personalities, as well as priorities, are different.

One of the biggest adjustments Father Gerry has had to make is being away from his children and grandchildren. His daughter and her four children are still in the Windsor area, while his son and his three children are in Holland. It is difficult for him to not be able to see them as often as he would like, especially at holidays such as Christmas. His oldest grandchild is 10.

Another adjustment was giving up his successful business and liquidating his assets once he made the commitment to the ministry.

Father Gerry says he is already finding it busier at the Kinmount-Minden parish than his previous postings. He conducts Mass at the church in Minden two nights a week and at the church in Kinmount two mornings a week. He is already involved with several committees and is in the process of establishing and building more.

His goal is to "build community – to have fun as a parish. "I love people," he said. "What's important is that we have to be good people."

Loving, caring and sharing are among the top priorities of the church. "We have to love people for who they are," he said. "Make sure you care about people."

With his background in floral design (he taught a course in floral design at the University of Guelph) and having studied art in France, Father Gerry says it is natural for him to start up a committee to make banners and decorations for the churches. About eight women have already joined the group and he hopes to encourage a few men to take part as well. It is part of his plan to encourage more socializing.

Although Father Gerry has a talent for art, he said he doesn't have time to indulge in painting. "I haven't picked up a brush in quite a while," he said. He likes to travel, so he takes advantage of his time off to see the world. He had the opportunity to celebrate mass in the Vatican and was a member of a group that had an audience with the Pope.

He also enjoys the theatre and fine dining.

Father Gerry says he is looking forward to meeting the people of the parish and working on fostering an enjoyable relationship between the church and the parishioners.

Eagle Lake woman charged in connection with fatal accident

A 51-year-old Eagle Lake woman has been charged with obstructing police and failing to remain at the scene of an accident in connection with a hit and run accident which killed Jesse Dickson, 17, of Toronto.

Dickson's body was found on Haliburton County Road 14 in the early morning hours of Sunday, September 15, 2002. The accused woman will appear in court on January 7 in Minden to answer the charges.

The police investigation revealed that Dickson had been out with friends on the evening of September 14, 2002 and that he had been dropped off at the Food Town store in Eagle Lake

between 1 and 1:30 a.m. on the 15th. From there, he hitch-hiked north on County Road 14 toward his family cottage on Haliburton Lake. At about 2 a.m. he was picked up by a passing motorist and dropped off at Parsons Road and County Road 14. He was last seen walking north in County Road 14 north of Parsons Road by another motorist at about 2:30 a.m.

Dickson's body was found about 1.6 kilometers north of Parsons Road at about 3:15 a.m.

An autopsy revealed that Dickson dies as a result of blunt force trauma, consistent with being struck by a vehicle.

Speeding is cause of concern

The final draft of the policing for results survey has been received by the Haliburton Highlands detachment of the OPP. A random sample of people in Haliburton County were contacted by volunteers and asked various questions about policing in the county. The survey was conducted from January to April.

The target number of surveys was 375, but the volunteers were able to complete 149 surveys during that time.

Some of the results are as follows:

Respondents generally felt that speeding on area highways and roads was a bigger problem than youth loitering.

Only 62.4 per cent of the respondents were aware that the OPP could be contacted at 1-

888-310-1122, 24 hours a day. The Haliburton Highlands Detachment advises that any calls for service should call that number, which directs the call through the Orillia Communications Centre. Officers are dispatched directly from the communications centre.

Respondents were asked questions about ATV, marine and snowmobile use in the county. A total of 15.4 per cent said they were involved in snowmobile activities, 22.8 per cent said they were involved in ATV activities and 41.6 per cent were involved in marine (boating) activities.

The overwhelming majority (94.7 per cent) said they found the officers of the Haliburton Highlands Detachment to be approachable.



Martha Perkins/TIMES

Starting their seventh decade together

The Wheels to Meals luncheon at the Dominion Hotel on Thursday took on a festive atmosphere when the 23 diners presented Laura and Dick Kirkwood with a special anniversary cake and flowers. The next day the Minden couple celebrated their 69th wedding anniversary. They were married in Lindsay on October 3, 1934; Dick was wearing a \$25 suit which he still owns today. For many years the Kirkwoods owned what is now Minden House and she was the one couples went to to get their marriage licence. Next month Dick will be celebrating his 96th birthday.



Keith Brannigan 1916-2003

After 10 years of a devastating long-term illness, Keith has finally said "good-bye", and it is time to remember those who helped in his care.

Thanks to all staff and volunteers at Hyland Crest Nursing Home. In the past two years, you have always brought out the best that Keith had to give. Thank you Barry Cray for your guidance and assistance. What can I say for the Gord Monk Funeral Home, that I haven't said on such previous occasions, about professionalism.

Thanks to all friends and neighbours, especially here at Horseshoe Lake, and the Gerry Espie and to Mrs. Pratt of home care groups. During the most difficult times, unfailing loving support was always there from Colleen Hewitt, Ruth Bain, Elva Heard, Fay and David Sawyer, the Dionnes, Mamie McLean and others. Simply, thank you.

Thanks to all who sent flowers, food, cards, telephone calls, kind thoughts, and for memorial donations in Keith's name, and thanks to the many who have richly blessed our lives with your love.

Mabel and Tim
R.R. #1, Minden

Seeking Art Advocates

The Community Economic Development Committee of the Haliburton County Development Corporation invites residents from throughout Haliburton County who are eager to be champions for the arts and have interests in various art sectors and in the business of art to serve on the Steering Committee for a new Arts Council for Haliburton County.

The purpose of the Arts Council is to provide a strong voice for the arts, to serve as a catalyst for community economic development through the arts and to contribute to the vibrancy of the arts and community life.

Please send a letter of interest and a short bio or resume by October 31st

By mail:
Haliburton County Development Corporation
Box 210, Haliburton ON K0M 1S0
By e-mail: hcdc@halhinet.on.ca
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A full description of the Arts Council mandate and Steering Committee roles and responsibilities is available at the HCDC office - 457-3555 and on the Where It's Art website - www.haliburtonarts.on.ca.


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Helicopters to train at Stanhope Airport

by MARTHA PERKINS
Times staff

Canadian and Slovenian helicopter pilots will be practising night flying out of the Stanhope Airport this fall.

The Department of National Defence received council's blessing to do the training from October 19 to 24 and November 23 to December 5.

"400 Tactical Helicopter Squadron [out of Borden] will be conducting a series of night training courses for our pilots on the CH146 Griffon helicopter to further increase our combat capability," says Lt. Col. P.S. Allward, the squadron's commanding officer in a letter read at Algonquin Highlands council on Thursday.

"We will also be conducting similar training for the Slovenian Air Force at their request. Slovenia is a member of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership committee and may become a member of NATO some day in the future. It is through this type of co-operation that we build relationships which in turn help to ensure global stability."

Allward says the Stanhope Airport is "an ideal location" because of the nature of night training combined with the airport's proximity to its low-level flight training area.

"It's my understanding they don't require our permission but I'm very prepared to give it," said Reeve Eleanor Harrison upon receipt of the letter. "The need is there for these people to train."

"You expect your forces to be trained and where else will they do it,"

"I'd like to go see them," said Councillor Kerry Lock. "Are they going to repel out of helicopters on lines?"

There were concerns about noise but council felt that it was the ideal time of year because fewer people are here.

"You're going to have a whole lot of angry moose hunters because that's right in the middle of moose season," said Deputy-Reeve Don Shortreed, who expressed reservations about the plan.

"How many helicopters does Canada own," asked Councillor Jim Hicks.

"How about Slovenia," quipped Councillor Tom Gardner.

Crosswind runway would improve emergency services: EMS personnel

by ERIN TENNANT
Times staff

The county's emergency services could benefit significantly from a new runway at Stanhope Airport that could accommodate fixed-wing air ambulance planes, Haliburton's EMS manager said at a community airport co-operative meeting last week.

Bob English, while also praising the introduction of ambulance helicopters, said that the addition of fixed-wing aircraft - which carry two flight medics each and are regarded as the faster forms of air transport for critically-injured patients - would alleviate stress on the county's emergency resources, especially during the summer months when the population stretches to up to 60,000 residents.

"In the summer time, we need this," said English, speaking at the second annual Community Airports Group Cooperative meeting at the Wigamog Inn last Thursday.

Currently, an emergency airplane is too big and too heavy to land at the county's only airport.

But the proposed addition of a crosswind runway at Stanhope Airport, which might provide suitable access for the fixed-wing plane, has met with fierce resistance from residents at recent public meetings. Residents complain of the feared increase in air traffic noise.

At the cooperative meeting English said that given his detachment's limited ability to serve a geographic area of 22,000 square miles with just five ambulances, air ambulance resources were essential to ensuring critical patients received the best possible care.

"A fixed-wing aircraft could take a lot more stress off our land transport," said English.

Supporting these sentiments was John Dalglish,

manager of the Medical Air Ambulance Centre, who gave a general talk on the province's scope to respond to air ambulance needs across Ontario.

"Having access to the fixed-wing aircrafts means that you're not totally relying on the helicopter resource," he said. "You're able to take advantage of both resources on offer."

Also speaking at the cooperative meeting was Adam Hunt from the Canadian Owners and Pilots Association (COPA). Hunt's 18,000-strong association is made up primarily of recreational flyers, including about 64 pilots living in the Haliburton-Huntsville-Bancroft area and an estimated 400 members flying through this area.

Hunt spoke about the current "insurance aviation crisis" and of how rising premiums have hindered new pilots from taking up the cockpit controls. In some cases, companies are refusing to insure new pilots flying

certain classes of plane.

He also spoke about the trend in which larger airports are trying to phase out accommodating smaller airplanes in favour of the bigger airline planes - a trend that Hunt sees as encouraging the shift towards smaller airplanes flying more frequently to community airports.

But Hunt pointed to the general reluctance of municipal politicians to support community airports with tax money. Hunt argued that these airports represented public transportation infrastructure that encouraged tourism and business and therefore pilots should not have to face user fees for landing at them.

"Airports are in the public interest the same way as having a swimming pool or sidewalks are in the public interest," he said.

"A fixed-wing aircraft could take a lot more stress off our land transport"

BOB ENGLISH

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

A costly lesson

A Minden Hills resident learned an expensive lesson recently.

He is disabled and requires assistance with his daily life. We won't use any names because a court case is pending and criminal charges have been laid against someone whom he had employed.

Details of the experience will come out in court, but in the meantime, the victim feels there is a need to inform the public that they have options that he hadn't been aware of which could prevent this from happening to someone else.

He learned, after the fact, that when he was in the process of hiring a personal assistant, he had the option of having a police background check done on the people who applied for the job.

Checking references can be a good way of weeding out people who may not be compatible or even competent, but they rarely reveal whether or not the applicant can be trusted. How many applicants would provide a reference from someone they know would paint anything but a rosy picture of their employment history?

So our friend, the victim, asked us to pass along the message that the option does exist to delve into a job applicant's past, which he says, could have prevented him from being victimized.

We plan to follow up on this story when the defendant is processed through the justice system. If and when a conviction is registered, we will advise the public of the details as presented in court and the resulting penalty that is assessed. Preying on the most vulnerable members of our community is a crime that is intolerable and we hope that if a conviction is registered in this case, a penalty befitting the crime is forthcoming.

We'll keep you posted.

Congratulations Laurie

At the local level, the absence of malice displayed by all the candidates during the provincial election campaign was a plus that wasn't necessarily enjoyed in other ridings. Progressive Conservative candidate Laurie Scott earned a seat at Queen's Park because the majority of voters thought she was the best choice to represent us.

The local race was conducted with all candidates showing respect for their rivals. Each presented his or her case and the voters of the riding, which has traditionally been a provincial Tory stronghold, decided to remain true blue. We're confident that Laurie will represent us well, in spite of the fact that her party will not form the government. We expect her to help keep the governing Liberals apprised of the needs and concerns of Haliburton-Victoria-Brock in her role in the opposition.

With her background as a nurse and her experience in federal politics, Laurie is well equipped to serve her constituents at Queen's Park. She took on a huge responsibility when she decided to accept the challenge of replacing Chris Hodgson as our local representative. Chris accomplished a great deal during his nine years as our MPP, including lobbying for funding for new hospital facilities in Minden, Haliburton and Lindsay. Many people in the know credit him as a major factor in the procurement of the necessary funding to see these projects through and for helping to secure operating funds for Haliburton Highlands Health Services. The Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association Fish Hatchery and cultural centre is another feather in his cap.

We fully expect to be reporting the good things Laurie has accomplished during her tenure as our representative at Queen's Park. jg

CONTACT THE TIMES

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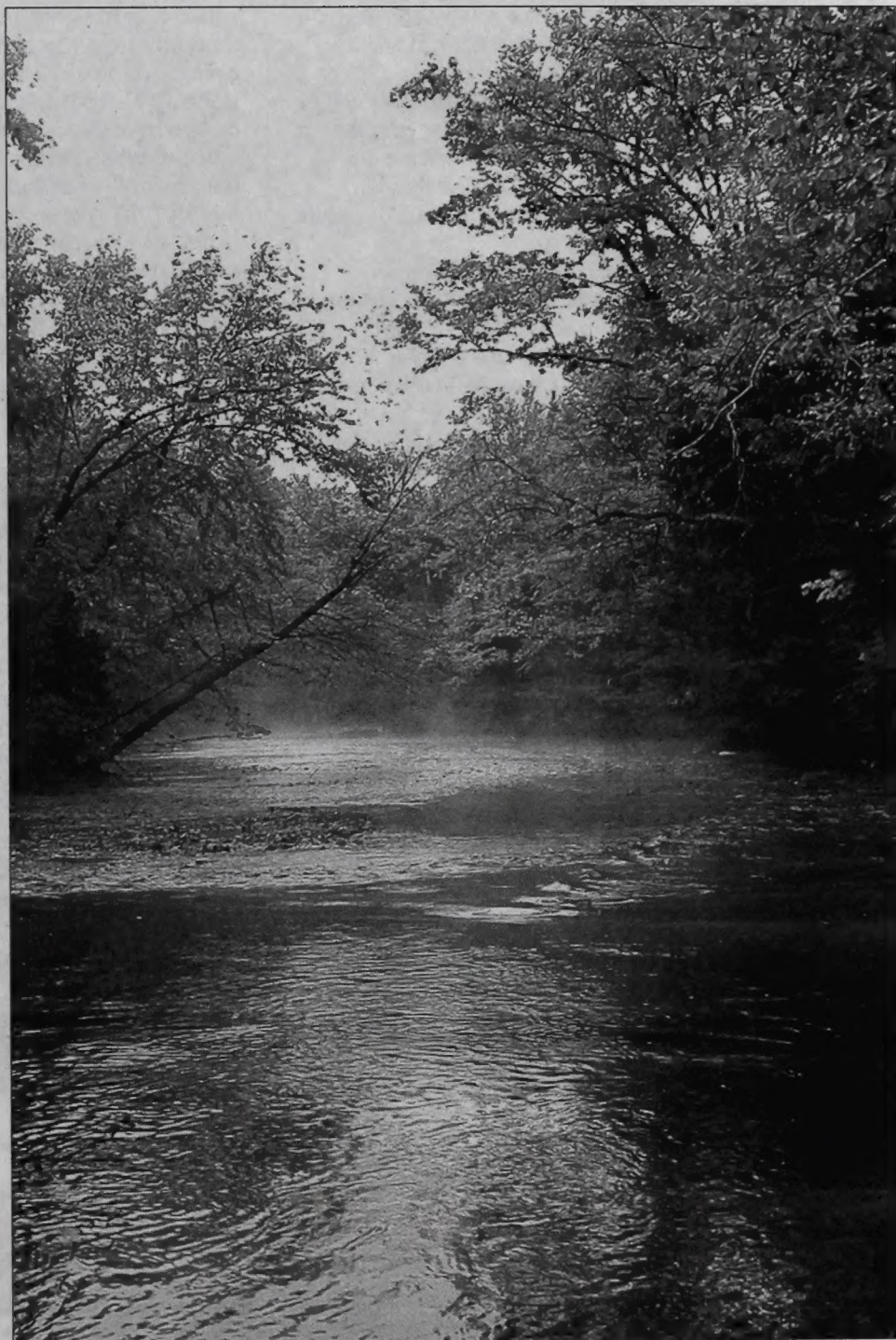
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IMAGES OF THE HIGHLANDS

Hawk River

Photo by ERIN TENNANT/Times

TO THE EDITOR

Times readers write

Councillor clarifies EMS costs

To the Editor:

In response to the editorial in the *Minden Times* of Monday, September 29, and the letter received by your office from EMS paramedics of Haliburton County, let me state for the record that I value highly the services provided by our EMS paramedics and fire department. On more than one occasion I have found the need of these services and all have responded in a professional and timely manner, and provided A-one care and assistance.

I appreciate the press' comments that I keep a critical eye on costs of services provided. I try to keep a critical eye on costs of all services provided. That goes with the territory of being in public office. I understand why EMS providers are upset. Initial information provided to me was incorrect with respect to wages and benefits and I wish to apologize for my comments to those concerned.

For the benefit of your newspaper and the

public, the following are salary rates and benefits for Haliburton County and the City of Toronto EMS providers at the Paramedic One level. All figures are current. Upper levels of paramedics' services not yet available in Haliburton County are not included:

Salary Paramedic One: Haliburton County - \$25/hr.; City of Toronto - \$24.76 - \$27.19 after 4 years service.

Benefits: Haliburton County - Dental & Vision Care 50%, County/50% employee, Ext. Health, STD, LTD, Life Ins. at 1 times salary, and Accidental Death - County pays 100%; City of Toronto - Dental, Vision plus Extended Health, STD, LTD, Life Ins. and Accident Death - City pays 100%.

Hours of Work: Haliburton County - Average to 40 hrs./wk.; City of Toronto - Average to 40 hrs./wk.

Overtime Rate: Haliburton County - Time and half (regular overtime), Double Time (Stat. Holiday); City of Toronto - Time and half (regular overtime), Double

see EMS page 7

IN OTHER WORDS

Columnists and Letters to the Editor

Cry me a rover

Go to a park in New York City and call out Max or Princess. The odds are, several dogs will come running. Of course, one or two curious guys will also follow, one of whom just might answer to the name Princess. After all, New York is a cosmopolitan city.

I only make this observation because for the third year in a row, Max and Princess are also among the most popular names for dogs in The Big Apple.

Completing the top ten are Lucky, Rocky, Buddy, Lady, Shadow, Daisy, Coco and Ginger.

You'll note all of these names would seem suspect when attached to a person but are perfectly acceptable when bestowed upon a dog. This, along with our love of neutering, clearly demonstrates that we have a strange way of showing gratitude to man's best friends.

If you ask me, it's no surprise that these are most popular names. I've known dogs that were given each of those monikers – sometimes all at once.

Coco was clearly the most memorable. When I was a kid, she lived just down the road but spent so much time slipping the chain that she soon became a regular fixture in the neighborhood. She was a dog about town.

Actually, she was a mobile fertilization unit gone wild.

A poodle named for her rich chocolate coat and sweet disposition, it was merely coincidence that her name also paid tribute to what she did best on neighborhood lawns. Hers was a precise and eerie regularity, the kind only found in those who have truly mastered the art of coffee break. This generally occurred in full view of anyone foolish enough to admire her curly locks at 12 minutes after the hour. It was almost as if she knew. The confident look on her face seemed to say, "It's

show time!"

Now, it's no secret that dogs are proud of this ability to create manure, but Coco's delight went well beyond the limits of good taste – even for a poodle. Back then there were no poop-and-scoop by-laws so when she promenaded around the block people took nervous notice. And even if they didn't know her name, the odds were good that they'd mutter a variation of it just after she stopped to leave her calling card.



BEYOND35

Steve Galea

After all, here was an animal that had old world charm and had clearly been around the block a time or two.

Watching Buck and other male dogs

show off to Coco made me aware, perhaps for the first time, that the male of the species will stop at no foolishness to impress a female. Whenever she happened by, Buck would casually mark a tree, leave a generous olfactory tribute, and then do this walk whereby his front paws dragged him, in a sitting position, tail out and hind legs up, across dad's neatly manicured lawn. It was not unattractive, but, having tried it a time or two in my desperate youth, I can vouch for the fact that was far more effort than she deserved.

Yet, despite this, Coco remained aloof. The tail sniffing that took place between her and Buck was polite yet formal. There was no chemistry, despite Buck's obvious charms and good manners. Eventually, Coco and her family moved away.

Buck was heart-broken. But, throughout the neighborhood, grown men leaning on shovels were, for once, nowhere near being down in the dumps.

Seven days makes one week

This is the greatest week in the history of the world since Creation!

U.S. President Richard Nixon, after the Apollo moon landing.

A week is a long time in politics.

British Prime Minister Harold Wilson

So how's your week been so far? I've spent a good chunk of mine musing over some of the many things we take for granted in this life. Things like, well, the fact that we divide our time into salami-like slices called 'weeks'.

Funny word, 'week'. Comes from an Old English word meaning 'change' or 'turn'. That's what happens, alright. We march like foot soldiers through the days of the week from Sunday to Saturday, and then like a well-drilled platoon we 'turn' and start all over again at Sunday.

But why do we make it a seven-day sortie? Other units of time – days, months and years – make solid sense. The length of a day is dictated by the rising and the setting of the sun. The waxing and waning of the moon tells us how long any given month will be. A year is determined by the rotation of the earth. But a week? That's a man-made convention.

And evidently a popular one. We've been using the seven-day week unit faithfully for the past 1700 years. Before that, there were other attempts to subdivide that undifferentiated stretch of time between a day and a month, but none of them lasted. Historians say that some early West African tribes observed four-day weeks.

The Type A Egyptians opted for a ten-day marathon. The ever-practical Romans split the difference and came up with the 'nundinae' – a nine-day week that conveniently ran from one market day to the next.

Then along came those meddlesome Christians with a whole new set of rules and regs, beginning with The Ten Commandments. The fourth commandment decreed that once every seven days all folks hoping to earn a pair of angel wings should lay down their tools, quit drinking and dancing and 'observe the Sabbath'. King Constantine made it the law of the land around 300 A.D. and most of the Western world has been observing it ever since.

More or less. There have been one or two attempts to re-jig the week. Back in the late 18th century, just after they'd stormed the Bastille and separated Marie Antoinette's head from the rest of her, rebels in Paris issued the first French Revolutionary Calendar. It included

among other innovations, a ten-day work week. But that was too radical even for the radicals. It disappeared faster than a dab of Brie on a baguette.

In 1929 the Russians took a shot at streamlining the week. The Kremlin declared that all comrades would observe a five-day week, in

which each fifth of the work force had its own day off, with no common day of rest shared by all. This screwed up Russian

family and civic life even more than Stalin and his henchthugs had already managed to. Russians drifted back to the seven-day week; the Kremlin pretended not to notice.

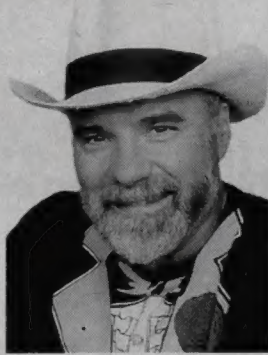
The ill-fated Communist offensive was the last official assault on the seven-day week, but that hasn't preserved it from

further tampering. Even in my lifetime, the concept of Sunday as a day of rest has changed beyond all recognition. When I was a kid, there was no doubt when Sunday rolled around. The stores were closed. There were no baseball or hockey or football games. Movie theatres were dark. The only sounds were church bells tolling, kids whining about having to dress up for Sunday school and backsliding fathers snoring on the chesterfield. Today, aside from the lack of traffic jams, it's pretty hard to tell Sunday from any other day of the week.

It's certainly no longer a day of rest. It's now a day of lawn mowing, mall shopping and catching up on work that didn't get done during the previous six days.

Napoleon would have loved it. He was a workaholic. Even while France's Reign of Terrorists were frantically trying to introduce the Revolutionary Calendar, Napoleon was putting in 16-hour days as a Consul. "Do let's keep awake, citizens" he exhorted his colleagues as one meeting ground past the 2 a.m. mark. "We must earn our salaries."

"God made Bonaparte and then rested," purred one sycophant. Another, less enamoured councilor grumbled "God should have rested a little earlier."



ARTHUR BLACK

Columnist

EMS wages, benefits detailed

from page 6

Time (Stat. Holiday).

Vacation Pkg.: Haliburton County – Less than 1 year, 2 weeks; After 1st anniversary, 2 weeks; After 3rd anniversary, 3 weeks; After 9th anniversary, 4 weeks; After 18th anniversary, 5 weeks; After 25th anniversary, 6 weeks. City of Toronto – After 1st anniversary, 3 weeks; After 9th anniversary, 4 weeks; After 17th anniversary, 5 weeks; After 23rd anniversary, 6 weeks.

Councillor Peter Oyler
Minden

To the Editor:

RE: EMS Costs –
quoted comment by
Peter Oyler and
response in
September 29 Times.

In the past five years my family – my mother, husband and I – have had to avail ourselves of the services of the EMS Paramedics at least ten times. The most recent of these was on September 6 when

these gentlemen took my husband Bob on his final ride to Minden Emergency, then on to Ross Memorial Hospital, where he died on September 7.

If, in fact, Peter Oyler was quoted correctly then, once again, this representative of the people who elected him to public office, has spoken on a subject about which he is ill informed.

In July, I called for an ambulance at 4

MORE LETTERS

Times readers write

Paramedics deserve praise, not criticism

a.m. I was so sick, I could barely move. The two gentlemen who came to our backwoods house in under 20 minutes (they were a little longer than usual because they had taken another sick person into Minden Emergency) were cheerful and businesslike, indicated within seconds what they felt was wrong with me, and carried my portly self down 21 stairs to the ambulance. Their diagnosis was right, by the way.

To suggest that our EMS workers are
see WE page 8

Local library fulfills requests for unusual books with ease

To the Editor:

Kudos to the Stanhope Library and its librarians. Several times over the last few months I have asked if copies of books I've been interested in could be obtained. No matter how unusual the request I made the librarians were always confident they could satisfy it. As a result of their efforts I have been able to obtain and read books from widely dispersed areas – North Bay,

Quinte, Toronto, Trenton and other locations.

I had no idea the library system covers such a widely-covered area nor did I anticipate such cooperation from our librarians. Thank you very much – and be prepared: I am already thinking of a couple more you can find for me.

Art Wall,
Maple Lake.

Sign snatchers a help to candidate

To the Editor:

I did not realize that my election signs would be in so much demand and such a collector's item that someone would actually steal them. I guess I should be flattered that certain individuals want a sign with my name on it so badly that they have to steal one. They took it before it even had a chance to get weathered. It was only up for 48 hours. I guess I should be

grateful that I am that popular.

In the end, if you print this letter, I will receive the benefit of free exposure to the electorate. I therefore am indebted to the "Sign Snatchers."

Thank you, whoever you are.

Clayton Cameron
Candidate, Ward One
Minden Hills

We should be grateful for emergency care

from page 7

overpaid and under-worked is, to my mind, blasphemous. In many instances, their job here is far more difficult in Haliburton County than in well-marked city areas. Here, they have to find us before they can begin to treat us.

The people in Haliburton County should be thanking God that we have these dedicated, and very likely underpaid, people at

our beck and call 24 hours a day and that there are facilities like Minden and Haliburton Hospitals to receive us when we are ill.

We do not need people in public office like Mr. Oyler who, on this occasion, has spouted off about that which he knows nothing.

(Mrs.) Carole Bullen,
Norland

Letter from Iraq:

U.S. Serviceman Steven Fleenor recounts his experiences of the war

Editor's note:

Steven Fleenor, a member of the United States Armed Forces serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom in Iraq, is a frequent visitor to the Minden area. His family has vacation property near Gelert. The Fleenors have many friends in this area and Steven always looks forward to participating in the annual deer hunt. Unfortunately, he won't be home from Iraq in time for this season and he may not be back for Christmas, either. He corresponds with several people and families in Haliburton County, as well as periodic letters to *The Minden Times*.

Following is his latest letter to the editor with his personal experiences from a front-line perspective:

To the Editor:

How's everything in my heart's home? You all continue to be in my thoughts. I just received a letter from a friend of mine and she said you had asked about me. Well, for the record, I'm doing fine. In fact, I've been working on something for you off and on for a few weeks. I wanted to take the time to write my personal account of Operation Iraqi Freedom. You were the person I thought would most enjoy hearing it. I realize that by now most of what I have to say will no longer be news to you but perhaps you will find my story interesting. You may even wish to publish some of it, and that's fine.

So, grab a cup of tea and get comfortable, this is going to take a while. The

build-up of U.S. forces in the Middle East had been going on for over six months by mid-January when my unit (108th Military Police Company) received the word that we would deploy. As is often the case, we didn't know when we would leave or how long we'd be gone. This simply didn't matter. We all know we had a job to do and we had a great deal of work to do to get ready to leave. Most of us had been to Afghanistan just six months before, so we knew well the long days and hard hours ahead. We had to be ready to fly in 18 hours, as the standard at Fort Bragg. In this time 130-plus people had to get packed, receive all the required shots and get their affairs in order. At the same time, we had to pack the company's equipment to include some 50 vehicles and get them ready for shipment. Like well-oiled machines, we all dug in and did our parts to ensure that we were ready to go by the deadline. You know, it really is amazing what can be accomplished when everyone works together. The 18th hour came and we were ready. Now the waiting began.

Our deployment date kept getting pushed back. Every week we were given a new date. This was due mostly to the fact that most of the Army was in transit or waiting for transportation.

It seemed as if we were all going to a big party but no one had a ride. All our planes and cargo ships were being used, plus all the bases being established for the build-up were full. The Army was reaching a break-

see IRAQIS page 2

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Happy Thanksgiving from Kinmount Food Town

Grade "A" Turkeys FROZEN All Sizes \$1.65 lb. \$3.63 kg FREE Smart Choice CRANBERRY SAUCE WITH EACH TURKEY PURCHASE BACON SLICED SIDE STORE PACKED \$2.49 LB	Fresh Store Baked Pumpkin or Apple PIES 600g 2 for \$5.00 * Beatrice WHIPPING CREAM 250ml 99¢ SMART CHOICE or MEALTYME White or 100% Whole Wheat BREAD 675 gram loaf 99¢	World Famous Kawartha Ice Cream ASSORTED FLAVOURS \$2.99 1.5 litre NESCAFE Coffee RICH BLEND or DECAF 200g 150g \$2.99 Delmonte - CANNED VEGETABLES Assorted Varieties 341 ml 5 for \$3
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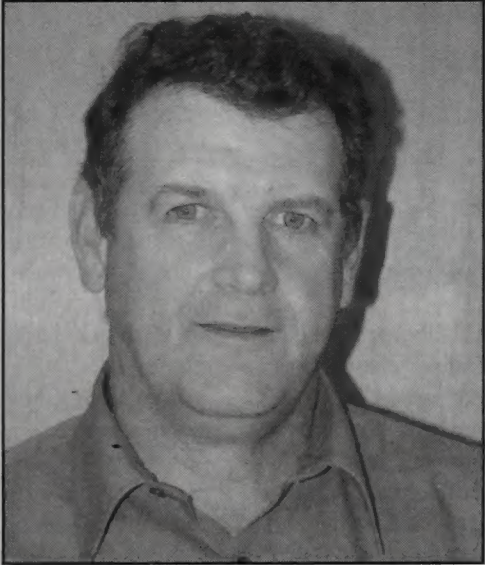
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Canada No. 1 BEETS 10 lb bag \$2.49	Canada No. 1 CARROTS or ONIONS 10 lb bag \$2.49	Canada No. 1 RUTABAGAS 10 lb bag \$2.49	Canada No. 1 PEPPER SQUASH 4 for \$2.49
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Bring in this ad and your children can enjoy a FREE Kawartha Dairy Ice Cream

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WARD 1**

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19 years Experience On
Municipal Council In Kinmount

17 Years Experience In
Municipal Administration In Minden

**Your BEST Choice
X Clayton Cameron**

Iraqis get a new start without Saddam

from page 8

ing point.

The time had come to go forward into war or come home. Finally, in March, the war went forward and we knew our deployment would come soon. Then it came — we were to leave the first week of April. All the weeks of training, waiting and anticipation climaxed in one moment as we boarded that plane for Kuwait. The flight from Fort Bragg to Kuwait City was an adventure of its own. We were on the same plane for close to 24 hours, with stages in New York, Glasgow and Rome. We finally landed in Kuwait City at around 10 a.m. on April 7. The city was so beautiful and I immediately knew that the world had done the right thing in 1991 during the Gulf War.

When we arrived in Kuwait, the war was well on its way. The U.S. and British forces had already taken control of most of Southern Iraq and Baghdad was in our sights. We were ready to go to work! Instead, we were forced to wait for our equipment to arrive so we were put in one of the dozens of "Replacement Camps" along the Kuwaiti/Iraqi border.

The casualties began to mount. Every day is seemed like another supply convoy was ambushed. The front line was simply moving too fast for secure routes to be established and maintained. Everyone was saying, "where are the MPs" as convoy security/route security are a few of our primary combat missions. Unfortunately, we were stuck in Kuwait. This was very frustrating.

Our equipment finally arrived and we received our first mission — we were to escort our Battalion Commander, Sergeant Major and about 50 personnel and 20 vehicles north to Baghdad. This mission covered over 900 miles on the most dangerous road in Iraq. This route was the U.S.'s main supply route from Kuwait to Baghdad, which was now under U.S. control.

Every day along this route convoys were being ambushed and people were dying. The war was far from over.

Early one morning we headed out for the Iraqi border. The drive from our camp to the Iraqi border took about two hours. Just before we reached the demilitarized zone (DMZ), which has separated Kuwait and Iraq

since the Gulf War, we stopped to refuel. There was a line of vehicles already waiting at the DMZ as if it were the starting line at a race. Once we refueled, we drove on. We approached a large check point manned by Kuwaiti Military personnel who eagerly waved us forward and suddenly we were in the DMZ. The DMZ was, I guess, about 500 metres wide and, as you can imagine, very heavily patrolled by Kuwaiti and U.S. military personnel. We approached a large sand berm, the Iraqi border and then passed into the unknown. I must admit my heart was pounding in my chest. In one brief moment, we had entered Iraq and the war.

Or long and dangerous journey north to Mosul now began. The route we were to take, as I mentioned, was the main supply route from Kuwait to Baghdad, and all points north. This was the same road Saddam had used just 10 years ago to invade Kuwait.

As I drove, I couldn't help but think about what the Iraqi army had been thinking along the same drive. It's funny the way fate works.

Anyway, our planned route took us due north all the way to Baghdad, where we would then travel west of the city to avoid any ambush points in the heart of the city. This was, at least, the way we had planned. As we approached Baghdad from the south we could see the large trenches which Saddam had filled with oil and set ablaze in an effort to mask the city from aerial attack.

These trenches were still smoking. We passed through two distinct lines of Republican Guard defense which had been, for lack of a better word, destroyed. Tanks, vehicles and fighting positions were in ruins. The lucky ones ran but it was apparent that some had chosen to fight.

We passed through these lines and continued on to the capital city. We began our loop west and quickly learned that the route we were taking was going to take us further into the city than we wanted to go, but we couldn't stop because it was more dangerous to stop. We pressed forward. We approached our route back north and soon realized that we couldn't get on the road from the direction we were traveling. We had to improvise and go off road a little. Finally, we had

made it around the city and nothing else lay between us and Mosul.

Finally, two days and nearly 900 miles after leaving Kuwait we arrived at Mosul. Some of us had gotten almost no sleep over the two-day journey and it was all we could do to climb out of our trucks and onto the hood for a well-deserved night's sleep. We woke the next morning and began the

clean-up of our new home, some former Republican Guard barracks on a northern edge of Al-Mosul Airfield.

Two days after arriving in Mosul we went to work. Our job was to take over the police/law enforcement activities in the city. The Iraqi police (Ips) had lost the trust of the people due to years of corruption by Saddam's Baath Party. Our company's four platoons each took over a police station in the city and began the long process of rebuilding trust in the police. The process has been long and difficult but the IPs are now doing their jobs mostly without our telling them to or doing it for them, as was once the case.

We have seen and done a lot here in Mosul. Our station has been hit with rocket-propelled grenades, our patrols have been attacked/ambushed and one airfield has also been attacked. The guerilla war continues here in Mosul and so does our mission.

Well, there you have it in a nutshell — my personal account of operation Iraqi Freedom. Many people and even a large number of countries question the U.S. involvement here in Iraq, but I'm here and I've seen the good and the bad and now questions asked, without a doubt, the world needed to do this. The one side to the story that seems to never get told is the human side. These people deserve a chance to enjoy the same freedom you and I enjoy. They deserve a life without the fear of Saddam. Who really cares about the weapons of mass destruction? I don't and I'm the one with my life on the line. We are doing something great here, giving a country, a people a new start. A chance. That's all. And, God willing, we will be successful.

I guess that's about it for now. I hope I didn't bore you too much and I look forward to hearing from you. See you all next year.

Steven Fleenor In Iraq



Steven Fleenor



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Sr. Management Position

DIRECTOR OF ACUTE AND AMBULATORY CARE
and
CHIEF NURSING OFFICER

The HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS HEALTH SERVICES (Haliburton and Minden Hospitals) is seeking a dynamic, creative nurse leader with demonstrated commitment to provide vision, leadership and guidance in operational decision-making, resource utilization and development, and strategic planning. The person we are seeking will ensure that the activities of Haliburton and Minden Hospitals are directed towards attainment of corporate goals, quality services and responsiveness. The successful candidate will monitor the internal and external healthcare environment, seeking trends and best practices, thereby ensuring the best possible services to the community. This leader will be responsible to recruit, retain, lead and mentor professional staff and be a liaison with physicians and the HHHS management team, in order to ensure the best possible outcomes for our clients and patients.

Qualifications

- University Degree in nursing
- Administrative experience preferred
- CHA Management Program or equivalent an asset
- Excellent analytical and budgeting skills
- Demonstrated human resources management and leadership skills
- Excellent verbal and communication skills
- Excellent organizational skills and ability to adapt to continually changing priorities
- Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to work effectively with administration, management team, Board of Directors, charge nurses, staff, physicians and the community
- Excellent knowledge of program planning and evaluation
- Demonstrated ability to achieve goals and objectives within specified time frames
- Good computer skills and knowledge of Microsoft WORD, Excel, and Internet/E-mail programs
- Demonstrated conflict resolution and crisis management skills
- Demonstrated commitment to continuing education
- Membership and active participation in a relevant professional association

Position to commence February 23, 2004. Application deadline November 1, 2003.

Reply to:

Mr. Keith Sansford, President & CEO
Haliburton Highlands Health Services
Box 115, Haliburton, Ontario, K0M 1S0
Fax: 705-457-1071
Email: ksansford@hhhs.on.ca

Thank you to all candidates that apply. We will, however, only be contacting those candidates who will be selected for an interview.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Sr. Management Position

DIRECTOR OF CARE for Long Term Care

The HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS HEALTH SERVICES (Hyland Crest and Highland Wood) is seeking a dynamic, creative nurse leader with demonstrated commitment to provide vision, leadership and guidance in operational decision-making, resource utilization and development, and strategic planning. The person we are seeking will ensure that Hyland Wood LTC and Hyland Crest Sr. Citizen's Home provides the best possible care for our residents.

Responsibilities

- In collaboration with staff, develops the philosophy of nursing, statement of purpose for nursing services, goals and objectives, policies and procedures and the description of nursing functions.
- Plans, directs, develops, coordinates, implements and evaluates resident care services
- Ensures resident satisfaction through continuous quality improvement initiatives
- Ensures services are delivered in a manner that is in keeping with the residents' expectations and changing needs
- Oversees the financial and human resource management
- Maintains the service in accordance with legislative and professional standards, and Ministry of Health & LTC regulations
- Promotes a positive team spirit
- Maintains a liaison with hospital, medical staff, community and healthcare related disciplines and partners to ensure the most effective provision of care delivery in the facility
- Exercises authority over resident care staff, in conjunction with collective agreements, such as: supervises, directs, evaluates, hires, fires and promotes for the purpose of ensuring quality care and a safe, effective and efficient work environment
- Ensures the availability and maintenance of Nursing Department supplies and equipment
- Assumes responsibilities of the Administrator, as required in the absence of the Administrator

Qualifications

- Current registration as a Registered Nurse with the College of Nurses of Ontario
- Postgraduate studies in nursing, nursing administration and geriatrics preferred
- Minimum 3 years management experience in long-term care setting
- Good computer skills and knowledge of Microsoft WORD, Excel, and Internet/E-mail programs
- Demonstrated conflict resolution and crisis management skills
- Demonstrated human resources management and leadership skills
- Demonstrated commitment to continuing education

Position to commence December 1, 2003. Application deadline November 1, 2003.

Reply to:

Mr. Keith Sansford, President & CEO
Haliburton Highlands Health Services
Box 115, Haliburton, Ontario, K0M 1S0
Fax: 705-457-1071
Email: ksansford@hhhs.on.ca

Thank you to all candidates that apply. We will, however, only be contacting those candidates who will be selected for an interview.

Firefighters vie for bragging rights

Stanhope team wins title
at annual firefighters games

Bucket Race:

Dysart 1.58 sec.; Minden 1.47 sec.;
Stanhope 1.53 sec.

Hose Race:

Dysart 2.45 sec.; Minden 1.53 sec.;
Stanhope 1.49 sec.

Ladder Race:

Dysart 1.29 sec.; Minden 1.20 sec.;
Stanhope 1.01 sec

Obstacle Race:

Dysart 5.06 sec.; Minden 4.47 sec.;
Stanhope 4.45 sec.

Water Ball:

Dysart #1; Minden #3; Stanhope #2.

Tug of War:

Dysart #3; Minden #1; Stanhope #2.

Total:

Dysart 35 points; Minden 50 points;
Stanhope 65 points.

First Place to Stanhope Fire

Department with 65 points

Second Place to Minden Fire

Department with 50 points

Third Place to Dysart Fire Department
with 35 points

Ladies Water Ball Results:

Dysart Ladies First

Stanhope Ladies Second

Minden Ladies Third

Photos by **DARREN LUM/Times**



Firefighters in action:

Clockwise, from top:
Minden squad shows
teamwork; action in the
tower race; charging to
the water trough;
competing in the
obstacle course event





Jr. girls are 3-0

The junior girls Red Hawks basketball team put an exclamation point on the first three games of the league's season with another win last Wednesday, beating the visiting LCVI Spartans 26-10. Packed stands cheered the strong play and celebrated with the team which is enjoying a 3-0 record. In the photo at left, HHSS guard Natasha McGann breaks down the line for a bank shot against the boards during the second half playing the Spartans. They won their second game in a row when they defeated the visiting I.E. Weldon Wildcats 38-35 at home on Wednesday Oct. 1. Head Coach Roland Zilla attributes part of the win to strong play by Paige Collins throughout the game and her composure down the stretch. HHSS earned their first win of the season on the road against the Fenelon Falls Falcons 32-30 in overtime. Their next game is a rematch against the Fenelon Falls Falcons at 3 p.m. in the Hawks' nest (athletic facility).

Darren Lum photo

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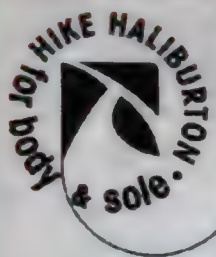
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Daren Lum/TIMES

Red Hawks are flying again

Matt Flowers avoids a slide tackle along the sideline. The senior men's soccer team earned a victory against the arch-rivals from Fenelon Falls with a 3-1 victory. Flowers deposited two goals with Captain Rob Ainsley adding an assist and the assurance marker.

CARNVARVON LANES

Tuesday Afternoon League (September 30)

High average: Ken Thompson 207; Betty Henderson 175
High single: Chris Hill 271; Lillian Mattsson 209
High single (handicap): Chris Hill 297; Lillian Mattsson 249
High triple: Jerry Warren 713; Lillian Mattsson 548
High triple (handicap): Jerry Warren 842; Lillian Mattsson 683

Wednesday Afternoon League (October 1)

High average: Ken Thompson 218; Carol Snow 165
High single: Avar Edwards 259; Carol Snow 213
High single (handicap): Avar Edwards 293; Carol Snow 264

Thursday Afternoon League (October 2)

High average: Ken Thompson 242; Beverley Alexander 178
High single: Ken Thompson 283; Beverley Alexander 215
High single (handicap): Jack Burtch 255; Helen Skelding 281
High triple: Ken Thompson 728; Beverley Alexander 534
High triple (handicap): Paul Cameron 679; Sharon Barnhart 689

MINDEN LANES

Legion 636 Mixed League (September 29)

High average: Bob Vankoughnet 197; Leitha Stearns 150
High single: Bob Vankoughnet 231; Beryl Harrington 192
High triple: Bob Vankoughnet 605; Beryl Harrington 497
High single (handicap): John Ritchie/Fred Knight 258; Beryl Harrington 262
High triple (handicap): Fred Knight 723; Beryl Harrington 707

Senior curlers invited to open house

All returning members, new and potential members are invited to the Minden Curling Club Membership Night on Tuesday October 7 at 7:30 p.m. in the Curling Club. Renew acquaintances, learn details of the curling clinics for new and experienced curlers and enjoy refreshments.

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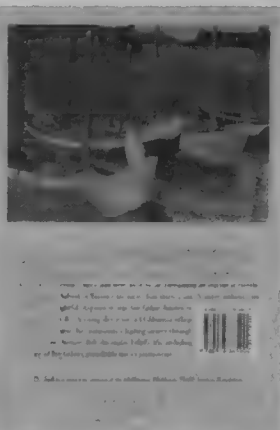
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Run, ASES, run

There were 53 Archie Stouffer Elementary School athletes who competed at the Cross-Country Meet hosted by the J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School on Thursday, Sept. 25. Several runners won medals which they proudly displayed when they returned to the school. In last week's results we missed mentioning that Jaden Upton was first in the 9-and-10-year-old category. At left are most of the team participants.



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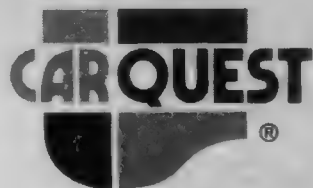
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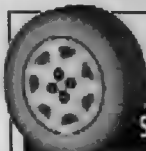
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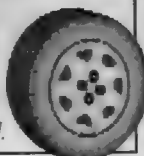
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More anglers than walleye

Stocking won't solve all the problems, MNR biologist tells Outdoors Association

by MARTHA PERKINS
Times staff

In the area north of Thunder Bay, there are 2,300 lakes where 50,000 anglers fish for walleye.

In the south-central area of Ontario, including Haliburton County, there are only 500 lakes supporting 750,000 walleye anglers.

So when you have almost one-fifth the number of lakes attracting 15 times the number of anglers, it doesn't come as any surprise that walleye lakes in this area aren't doing very well.

But is stocking the answer?

"In many cases stocking will not work," said Dave Bell, a South-central Region fisheries biologist with the Ministry of Natural Resources told members of the Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association on Sunday morning.

"Stocking is not the be all and end all. We have to understand when it does and doesn't work so we don't spend a lot of time working on something that won't pay any dividends," Bell said.

That said, starting next spring the HHOA's fish hatchery near Haliburton will begin raising up to 30,000 walleye to be put in lakes throughout the province.

These fish have to be put in lakes which are appropriate to a walleye population, not simply the most popular fishing lakes. Sun-hating walleye like dark, nutrient-rich, big lakes with lots of shallow areas.

The Bay of Quinte used to be an ideal home but the fishery has suffered a severe decline in recent years. Zebra mussels have been cleaning up the bay and a new sewage treatment plant is releasing fewer nutrients.

"Stocking won't help," Bell said. Since the character of the water itself has changed, "I don't think there's anything that can bring it back to where it was."

Likewise, zebra mussels have contributed to a decline of the walleye fishery in the Kewartha.

Another big problem is rock bass. They eat the minnows that other fish need and are lucky enough not to be an attractive catch for either fish or anglers.

Rock bass have had a "profound effect" and also serve as a warning of what can happen when a new species is introduced to a lake.

No matter how many walleye you stock, the fisheries cannot withstand constant overfishing, Bell added. In southern Ontario, local anglers may abandon certain lakes



"Stocking is not the be all and end all," MNR biologist Dave Bell said at the annual general meeting of the Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association last Sunday. "We have to understand when it does and doesn't work so we don't spend a lot of time working on something that won't pay any dividends."

because of poor fishing opportunities but if the lake is identified on maps as a walleye lake, other fishermen will continue to try their luck. As they fish for walleye, they'll catch other species as well which puts stress on those populations.

To come up with solutions, the MNR has recently completed a comprehensive survey of walleye populations and habitats. This information will be used to come up with

strategies to "try" (Bell's emphasis) to restore the fishery.

"We need fairly significant changes and a new management approach," Bell said, adding the public education will have to be a significant part of the program.

"I wouldn't say it was a doom and gloom story," he concluded. "Some years are better than ever but it's a lot harder for the average joe."

HHOA director Keith Hodgson said it's not fair that so much blame is put on anglers.

"Anglers are taking all the wrap," Hodgson said, "but loons must take out 400 to 500 pounds of fish each, and herons fish a lot harder than I do."

Bell responded that there are loons in the north so while they do contribute to fish mortality, they aren't the cause of the problems being faced in southern Ontario. "It's anglers who drive these populations below a sustainable level."

After Bell's presentation, Minden MNR fisheries biologist Dave Flowers gave a more detailed talk on walleye and their characteristics.

He said he was often asked when the HHOA would start hatching walleye and he urged patience. As a new organization, he wanted HHOA to show they could have success with lake trout before moving on to another species. That success is now in ample evidence, as indicated by the government's creation of a \$100,000 trust fund that will provide stable operational funding for the hatchery.

To try to improve the walleye hatchery, next April the MNR will harvest 200,000 eggs from 10 to 15 walleye in the Bay of Quinte and bring them to the hatchery. "We'll probably lose 50 per cent of them in transit," he cautioned.

After raising the eggs those 60,000 to 100,000 fry will be put into a pond. Feeding will be a challenge and there's a bigger risk of massive die-offs. "We can't just throw feed from a bucket into the pond; they feed on natural zooplankton."

The end result will be 20,000 to 30,000 five-centimetre-long fingerlings which will be introduced into lakes which have gone through a walleye rehabilitation program. Their progress will be charted so everyone can learn how to enjoy the same success with walleye that the hatchery has had with lake trout. Three of the lakes have yet to be determined.

The hatchery will also be home to another type of lake trout called the Mazinaw Platinum from the Bancroft area. The trout's population has been declining as waters warm up and the MNR has asked the HHOA to help out.

"They need help up there," said HHOA President John Ball. "We feel very honoured that we've been asked. We'll treat [the Mazinaw Platinum] just like we treat our own babies."

Ball also praised Larry Hewitt for his beyond-the-call-of-duty help in creating the walleye pond. "These last weeks he's been amazing," Ball said of the often dirty work.

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County gets report on disabled access

by MARTHA PERKINS
Times staff

The following are brief reports of items discussed at Wednesday's county council meeting.

In his opening remarks, Warden Ross Rigney wished his fellow politicians well in the November 10 municipal elections.

"I'd like to see you all back here," he said.

This was the penultimate meeting of the current council.

Accessibility

Municipalities will take the report on what barriers exist at their public buildings and decide which barriers will be given priority over the coming year.

The report fulfills the first step in the county's responsibility to address any problems people face in accessing public buildings. Now that those barriers are identified, it's the municipalities' job to rectify them under new provincial legislation.

How much work is done depends on how much each municipality can afford to spend.

The accessibility report must be updated every year. As well, the county's accessibility committee, which is comprised of representatives from each municipality, must continue to meet.

Hyland Crest trust fund

The county will seek written assurances that the interest from the Elizabeth Harrison Trust Fund is being spent on items requested by Hyland Crest residents.

The fund was set up by her family with the intention that the capital never be touched, said Algonquin Highlands Reeve Eleanor Harrison whose husband Jim is an executor of the estate. The interest can be

spent but only on items requested by the Minden seniors home's Residents Council.

With the formal transfer of Hyland Crest's ownership to Haliburton Highlands Health Services now complete, the county is willing to transfer the capital fund to HHHS as long as it receives a guarantee that the money will be administered as intended. At present, the county simply writes a cheque for the interest to HHHS.

"As long as HHHS can prove the money's being spent in the best interests of the residents we have no trouble with that," Harrison said.

Children's Aid Society

The new executive director is saving money by reducing the number of senior administrative jobs at the Children's Aid Society, reported Minden Hills Deputy-reeve Jim McMahon, who is council's representative on the board. (The county no longer contributes funds to the CAS as part of the provincial government's transfer of services but the CAS welcomes the county's continued presence on the board, which serves Haliburton County as part of its catchment area.)

Hugh Nicholson said that although there are three senior managers below him only two are needed, plus a supervisor. As well, two contract secretaries in the legal department have been let go. McMahon said that when Nicholson was asked if the secretaries' presence was being missed, Nicholson said the CAS is not falling behind in its work as a result.

As well, Nicholson is changing the CAS's emphasis to prevention and working with families at risk rather than taking children into care.

Chamber of Commerce

Algonquin Highlands Deputy-reeve Don



A good place to practice

In a bid to attract new doctors to the area, The Haliburton County Recruitment Committee participated in a Ministry of Health-sponsored Health Professional Recruitment Tour. The five-day tour involved all the five medical school universities: Ottawa, Kingston, Hamilton, London and Toronto. Local doctors who took part were Steve Ferracuti, Dick Charron, Kristi Gammon and Jaan Roos, above, shown talking to a young medical student. The committee will now follow up in more than 40 contacts made at the sessions.

Shortreed, who is council's representative on the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce, reported that Chamber membership continues to rise. It now stands at 348.

"They're trying to put more incentives into joining," he said.

The Chamber wants more representation from the building trades on its board of directors.

Doctor recruitment

CAO Gary King praised the efforts of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services board's doctor recruitment committee, headed by former HHHS CEO Foster Loucks.

The committee is following up on doctors who have expressed an interest in settling in

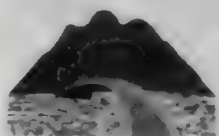
the Highlands and is attending doctor recruitment fairs at medical universities

"They're actively working and it was quite a productive meeting," King said.

Tidbits

County councillors did not discuss what decision it will make in regards to opening up county and township roads to ATV travel. A meeting will be set up in October between municipal representatives and the Haliburton ATV club.

Dave Taylor has resigned as the co-ordinator of Connect Haliburton because of other work commitments. A part-time replacement will be hired to finish the county's proposal for funding.



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Revision period begins **Tuesday, September 2, 2003 to Monday, November 10, 2003**, during regular office hours.

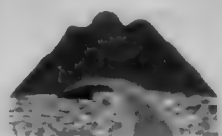
- Township of Minden Hills Municipal Office, 7 Milne Street, Minden
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PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU REVIEW THE LIST AND MAKE CORRECTIONS IF NECESSARY PRIOR TO VOTING DAY. This will ensure that the voting goes smoothly.

Revision Forms are to be returned to:

Twyla Nicholson, Deputy Clerk/Election Coordinator
Township of Minden Hills
7 Milne Street, Box 359
Minden, ON K0M 2K0

FAXED FORMS AND REVISIONS BY PHONE CANNOT BE ACCEPTED.
Original signatures are required on the Revision Forms.



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TOWNSHIP OF MINDEN HILLS 2003 MUNICIPAL ELECTION via VOTE BY MAIL

The 2003 Municipal Election is being conducted by Vote by Mail. All electors, on the Voters' List, will receive their Vote by Mail Kit in the mail between October 15th and 20th, which consists of:

- a ballot
- a white Secrecy Envelope
- a yellow Return Envelope
- a Voter Declaration Form
- Voting Instructions

Municipal Election Day is November 10, 2003; however, in order to ensure delivery of your ballot on time to the Municipality, the postage paid return envelope **must be placed into the mail by October 31, 2003**. As an alternative, the return envelopes may be hand delivered to the Township of Minden Hills Administration Office, 7 Milne Street, during regular office hours until November 07, 2003 and from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Monday, November 10, 2003.

The ballot is to be placed in the white Secrecy Envelope, and the envelope sealed. The white Secrecy Envelope is to be placed in the yellow Return Envelope. The Voter Declaration Form is to be signed and inserted in the yellow Return Envelope, so that the address of the Municipality appears in the window of the envelope. The yellow Return Envelope must then be sealed and deposited with Canada Post by October 31, 2003, or hand delivered to the Municipal Office. No postage is required if mailed in Canada.

Failure to follow the instructions carefully could result in the rejection of the ballot.

Qualified electors who have not received their Vote by Mail Kit in the mail by October 27, 2003, should visit the Municipal Office at 7 Milne Street, Minden. Blank Vote by Mail Kits will be available for those electors that are eligible to be added to the Voters' List, or for those who have lost or inadvertently discarded their kit.

For further information:

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Health Services Board meeting

Local physicians read, study constantly to keep up-to-date

by JERRY GROZELLE
Times staff

The following are brief reports of items discussed at the recent meeting of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services board.

Doctor Bob Heyes, Chief of Medical Staff, gave a report on medical services.

Dr. Heyes is not an elected member of the board but as an appointed member he provides medical interpretation and gives insight from a grassroots perspective. "I'm here basically as a consultant," he said.

Dr. Heyes said he was impressed with the quality of the personnel of the "well rounded" HHHS Board.

Marg Cox was curious about how the local doctors keep up with trends in medicine. Dr. Heyes said that all doctors are members of the College of Family Physicians and they are required to complete a minimum number of hours attending conferences and other educational events as well as keep up with prescribed reading. Online learning is another way for doctors to keep abreast of new developments.

"The level of patient satisfaction is very good," he said.

Flu shot campaign

CEO Keith Sansford reported that the Health Unit has reconsidered its controversial promotional strategy to encourage people to get their flu shots. In his report to the Board, Sansford said "The revised strategy will not focus on hospitals as was previously planned. Instead, an infectious disease specialist from Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto will be 'front and centre' explaining the importance of vaccina-

tions. Individuals from various industries will also be prominent in promoting the vaccination initiatives."

The Board decided not to participate in the proposed campaign at its August meeting because it felt there was a strong possibility the public would see it as negative message. The plan was to produce posters of various hospitals with a "closed" banner across them. Most Board members felt the requirement to read the fine print in the message would be missed and the public would think hospitals were closing.

The smaller print on the proposed posters would have explained that by not getting their flu vaccinations there was a possibility that influenza outbreaks would have a negative effect on hospitals, much like the effect SARS had this year.

Sansford said he and the health unit's Dr. Alex Hukowich spoke at length about the importance of flu vaccinations. Sansford said the HHHS Board should do as much as possible to encourage people to get flu shots.

Dr. Heyes suggested that both county hospitals should open their doors 24 hours a day, seven days a week, allowing everybody the opportunity to get flu shots.

It is young, healthy people who need to be targeted. They are not at risk from dying from the flu but there is a danger that they will spread it to others who are at risk. They should be informed that there is a danger that they may have to be isolated, along with their family members, if they come down with flu symptoms which are similar to SARS symptoms.

Long-term care

The HHHS Governance and Planning Committee has decided to establish a Long Term Care Task Force to focus on

long-term care issues within the organization. The proposal came about as a result of the Extendicare review.

Family councils may soon be established at Hyland Crest and Highland Wood. Sansford said the Family Council founding members from the Mary Crest Nursing Home in Peterborough led a discussion group with interested family members from the two Haliburton County facilities on September 17. Sansford reports the discussions "provided further impetus for developing our own family councils."

HHHS Board member Betty Moffatt indicated some time ago that she would like to step down from the secretary-treasurer position on the Board. Rob Eaton has agreed to take on the responsibilities.

Long-term care funding is a continuing problem, which Sansford says is exacerbated by a few residents' bills which aren't

being paid in a timely manner. He said that when residents' co-payments get behind, it becomes a burden to the system and services may have to be cut.

Sansford said all appropriate means will be used to collect outstanding debts. The current arrears total about \$25,000.

CFO Cathy Outram, responding to a question about the community's view of the Board using small claims court to resolve the issue, said HHHS must be operated like a business and collecting what is owed is part of running a business. "I don't have a problem going after bad debts," she said.

Board members were encouraged to question provincial election candidates about how they feel regarding community health centres and whether they would support Minden's proposal for a CHC.



Agnes Jamieson Gallery Volunteer of the Year

Laurie Carmount, Director of the Agnes Jamieson Gallery, presents the Volunteer of the Year Award to Sue Reid of Minden. Reid spent more than 50 hours of her time helping at the facility over the 2003 season.

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from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Atmosphere subdued among disappointed Liberals

from page 1

Progressive Conservative supporters reveled in the win that was announced just after 9 p.m.

The more the phoned-in results furthered Scott's lead, the more Scott beamed. With Hodgson never seeming to be more than arm's length from his rosy-cheeked successor, Scott bounded about the big second floor room of the Greek restaurant, accepting handshakes and pats on the back from ecstatic supporters.

The same hubbub could not be found at the party venues for the other candidates, however. At both the Liberals' rooms at the Lindsay curling club and the NDP's venue at the local Legion, the mood was a lot

more subdued, with neither Ward nor Manners making appearances before about 9 p.m.

"I want to reassure everybody that I am going to keep up the hard work," Scott told supporters in her victory speech. "I'm looking forward to chatting to you more and working for you in the future."

When asked by the *Echo* what she thought had won this election for her, Scott said it was a matter of consolidating an already strong support base.

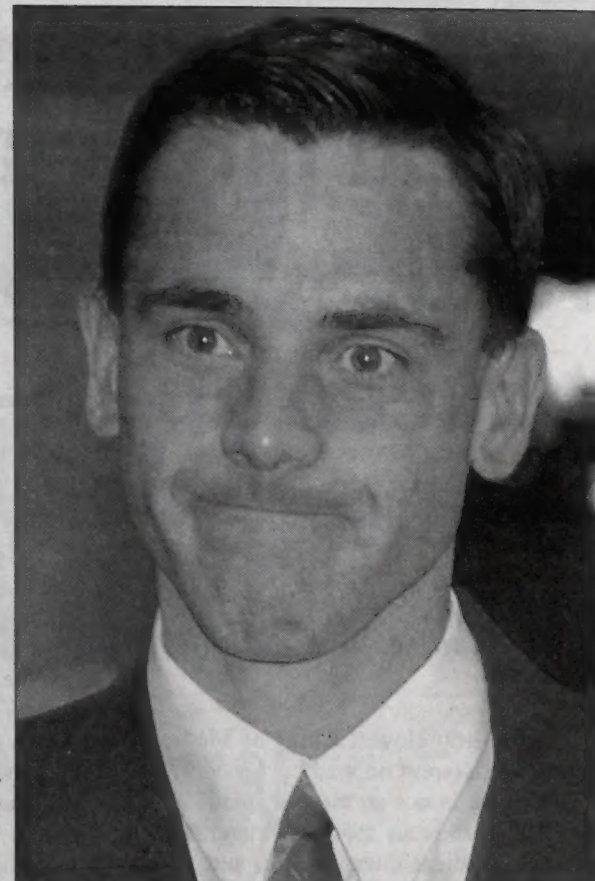
"There wasn't any one definitive thing," she said. "We tried to get to every village in the riding [in the lead-up to the election]... And I want to give credit to Chris Hodgson and the work that he's done in the last eight years."

But while Scott's win defied the fall in popularity for party leader Ernie Eves, Ward was unable to fully capitalize on the victory of his own leader, Dalton McGuinty. Ward won 17,100 electoral votes – or 33.5 per cent – in the riding, representing a 5 per cent gain on the last election.

The well-groomed Liberal was brave and humble in defeat. He appeared at the Olympia to officially congratulate Scott before facing the music among his own support base.

"It was my hope to build a truly just society to serve as a model in which every citizen has the chance to prosper," he said amid sniffles at the Lindsay curling club. "Thank you for believing in me."

Glazed eyes and a lumpy throat made it palpable that Ward believed he could win this election, with his campaign platform that attacked privatization and boasted promises to



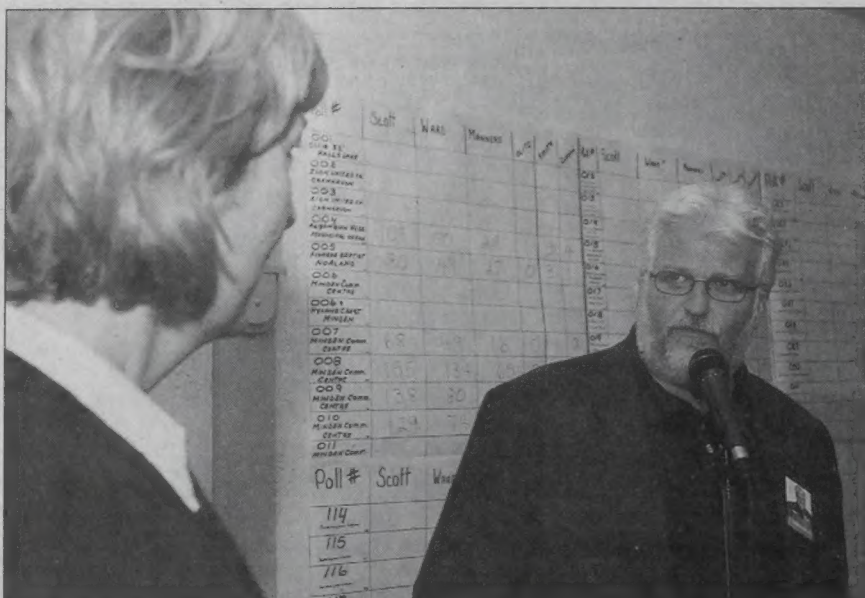
Darren Lum photos/TIMES

Liberal candidate Jason Ward had to fight back the tears as he had to concede victory locally to the Tories.

upgrade education and health services.

"This was a hard-fought battle from the beginning," Ward told the *Echo*. "I'm glad we closed the gap [between the Liberals and Conservatives]... But I don't think we could have run a better campaign. In the end we just weren't successful."

The NDP's Manners said the future bode well for his party in this riding, with a final count of 7,900 electoral votes – representing an 8 per cent improvement on the last election – and an overall second-place ranking among student votes. "There are a lot of people out there who took notice of this campaign," said Manners before supporters at the Lindsay Legion.



NDP candidate Earl Manners wished Laurie Scott luck when he arrived at her campaign party at the Olympia restaurant. He said she ran a clean campaign and he found her a friendly opponent.



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County debates whether to invest in GIS mapping

by MARTHA PERKINS
Times staff

Tony Bonnici's computer is the size of a briefcase but the information it contains could fill a room of filing cabinets.

At the touch of a cursor, he can tell you who owns a house on any given property in Peterborough County, when they bought it, how far it is from the property line, whether it's in a high-volume area of ambulance calls or in the midst of a forest, when the grass around the stop sign at the corner was cut, where the kids in the neighbourhood go to school and when the garbage gets picked up.

He can do in seconds what it would take a municipal employee to do it minutes – and many more minutes at that.

A group of stakeholders in Haliburton County, including the staff at various county departments, would like that information to be as easily accessible locally.

The county is being asked to invest roughly \$100,000 in its own GIS system. It would provide detailed information about every centimetre of property in Haliburton County and be of benefit for a variety of uses, everything from coming up with a public health policy to address a concern specific to one area to filing a building permit.

Who gets to see that information is controlled. The information would be layered in such a way that's what public is available, perhaps even via the internet, and what's private can be accessed only by a limited number of people, such as municipal staff.

Bonnici was asked to Wednesday's county council meeting to demonstrate what GIS offers. A professor in Peterborough, he helped introduce GIS to Peterborough County.

The amount of information was amazingly detailed. On the overhead screen he could show a general map of Peterborough County and then zoom into a specific neighbourhood. He could point out where there was a road sign and tell you what it said. He could say where the majority of emergency calls came from and he could provide information about where to send the tax bill for, for instance, the LCBO store in Havelock.

To bring the system to Haliburton County it would cost \$20,000 for a server with 10 users or \$30,000 for unlimited users. Then there's the staff time to input the information.

June Phillips of the county's roads department said that the total cost could be up to \$100,000 but also noted that at present government funding for 50 cent of that cost is available. Other potential users such as fire departments have other funding sources available to them. As well, much of the information now being supplied by government ministries is already coming electronically and it's easy to overlay much of the information.

In the county, only Dysart et al has GIS. Its information could be easily inputted into a county system, she said.

As to the cost, she said "Dysart put a lot into its GIS system before it became as efficient and user friendly as it is now. To get it up and running wouldn't be as difficult or expensive as it was for Dysart."

County CAO Gary King said "There has been some resistance to the whole idea of GIS but all products [from the government] are now being delivered digitally and it won't be long before you're forced to go this route. It makes more sense to do it when there's funding available – and I'm just the messenger."

Warden Ross Rigney said he didn't believe it was resistance on county councillors' part but rather a sense of timing. "We have had a lot on our plates and we've said 'Let's do one thing at a time.' 911 is almost done so this is a 2004 project."

"No one's negative towards it," said Dysart et al Reeve Murray Fearrey. "We just have to get the facts straight."

Meanwhile, the Haliburton County Development Corporation, in conjunction with the county's 911 department, has sent a letter to other organizations and businesses which might benefit to a county GIS system to see if there's interest in joining the project.

No decisions were made at Wednesday's meeting.

Wheels stolen from Keaney car lot

Haliburton Highlands OPP officials are asking for the public's help in solving a theft from Keaney Chrysler recently. Some time between 4 p.m. Wednesday, September 25 and 7:30 a.m. September 26 a person or persons unknown used a small dolly jack to raise the back end of a new Dodge pickup truck and removed the rear wheels and tires from the vehicle. The truck was lowered onto 6X6 pressure treated blocks.

The wheels were chrome 20 inch, mounted with Goodyear all season Wranglers, size P275/60-R20.

Anyone who has information is asked to contact the Haliburton Highlands Detachment via the Orillia Communications Centre at 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

Delivery driver dies at the wheel

Haliburton Highlands OPP officers were dispatched to Haliburton Village last Wednesday afternoon when a driver collapsed in his delivery truck.

The large Paxton delivery truck had been westbound on Cty. Rd. 121 and had stopped to make a left turn in front of Shamrock Shell. The truck remained stationary for some time with its left turn signal on. After it was obvious the truck wasn't going to make the turn, a citizen and Emergency Medical Services Manager Bob English investigated. They found the driver unconscious.

CPR was performed on the driver until an ambulance arrived a short time later and he was transported to the Haliburton Hospital.

The driver of the truck, Richard Evans, 52, of Peterborough was pronounced dead at the hospital. A post mortem was performed at Ross Memorial Hospital in Lindsay and it was determined that the cause of death was a heart attack.

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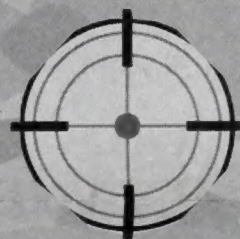
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Fill dumps to capacity or buy an oxidizer?

Waste management consultant prefers former while county council still toys with the latter

by MARTHA PERKINS
Times staff

Although a waste management consultant is recommending that the county addresses its garbage problems by making more efficient use of its existing resources, many county councillors are still intrigued by the thought of buying an oxidizer which will reduce the amount of waste that needs to be put in the ground by 80 per cent.

At Wednesday's county council meeting, SGS Lakefield Research consultant Michael Lord cautioned that an oxidizer, such as the one produced by Eco-Waste Management, is a very expensive option. If the county has enough landfill space to get it through at least the next 20 years – and perhaps double that if waste is managed differently – why not use what's already there?

"You'll be spending \$200,000 to \$500,000 just for the fees to go through an environmental hearing [for an oxidizer] and there's no guarantee it will be approved," he

"You'll be spending up to \$500,000 just for the environmental hearing and there's no guarantee it will be approved"

MICHAEL LORD

said when presenting the results of his company's waste management study for the county. Then there are the capital costs, the inefficiencies related to the staggered periods of use in a seasonal area and public resistance to the idea of burning waste.

Compared to the opposition some municipalities have faced over the possibility of asphalt plants moving to the county, if the county goes ahead with incineration, albeit an environmentally-friendly version of it, "It will be like a freight train coming at you," Lord said.

County councillors countered that while the county might have enough landfill space to last 20 years, an oxidizer is a much more long-term solution. And with new technologies available, many of the environmental concerns of the past have been addressed, making the idea of of burning garbage much more palatable.

While Lord agreed that the oxidizing technologies have very little impact on the environment, convincing people of that fact isn't easy. "In the court of public opinion, that's the challenge."

Dysart et al Reeve Murray Fearrey argued that making use of existing resources by filling landfills to their capacity and then transferring garbage to other sites has its own costs.

"I think the transportation costs would scare you," Fearrey said. A study 15 years ago estimated that transportation would double the costs of running the landfills.

At the very least, Lord said, the local municipalities would be wise to pool their resources and buy a \$150,000 compactor. By compacting the waste that has to be covered, the machine would pay for itself in three months, he said.

"If you don't do anything else, pool your resources and you'll see the result," Lord said, also encouraging council to consider a centralized composting system. This would reduce the amount of waste going into landfills and solve the problems of bears and other wildlife creating havoc at private composters.

One option he isn't recommending is curbside garbage pickup. While this would give councils more control of the garbage going into landfills, it would cost \$1,642,000. That would double the cost of waste management in the county.

At present, the four municipalities spend a total of \$1.8 million on landfills. With revenues from tipping fees, the net cost is \$1.5 million a year. The cost per household is \$69.

Property owners today produce 32,000 cubic metres of

garbage a year. Based on a three per cent population increase a year, that means county property owners will have buried 861,000 cubic metres of garbage by 2023. The current landfills, without any changes, have a capacity of one million cubic metres. (The population calculations virtually doubles the county's population by 2023.) That space could be greatly preserved – he said capacity would double – by compacting garbage and periodically mining existing sites to take out the fill that's been placed over top of the garbage over all these years.

Lord said that he was "walking on eggshells" when the company's waste management report turned to the issue of oxidization, or incineration. While it greatly reduces the amount of waste that's being produced, and the resulting waste is environmentally inert (and safe), it's very costly and local governments face a long environmental assessment process. Operational costs are higher

because the system would be designed either for the 50 tonnes of garbage that's produced a day in the summer in the Highlands or 20 tonnes a day in the other seasons. He noted that the oxidizers in Alaska were purchased and operated with government funding.

"But should we continue to put garbage into the ground," County Warden Ross Rigney asked. He says that at lake association meetings, any plans to preserve the environment are applauded and he believes people would think an oxidizer would be worth the cost.

Lou Trepanier, who sits on the county's environment committee, closed the discussion when he said "The bottom line is we have to look at a lot more than 20 years. All we're doing is buying time until there's better technology."

SGS will be asked to study additional items such as the cost of transferring garbage from one landfill to another.

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